

DESERT

ROUNDUP



Vol. 37 No.17

Naval Air Station Fallon, Nevada

November 1, 2002

SECNAV, Gordon England, comes to Fallon

By JO2 Eric D. Ritter

Secretary of the Navy Gordon England paid a visit to the base recently. While he was here, he spoke with NASF Commanding Officer, Capt. Brad T. Goetsch and NSAWC Deputy Commander, Capt. Jim Knight, Fallon Mayor, Ken Tedford and a few others around base. His visit was short, and mostly business oriented, so he was not able to 'visit the troops' all around the base.

Before he arrived on the base, England stopped in Carson City to meet with state Gov., Kenny Guinn, and vowed to continue the Navy's cooperation with the local community on several issues especially the leukemia cluster.

When England arrived on base, one of the things he wanted to do was to watch CVW-8 perform some of their training. CVW-8 was among the first American forces to strike at the Taliban in Afghanistan.

"The training that we do here is so important," he said. "These pilots are getting the training that they need here to perform what ever mission they are called upon to carry out."

This was England first visit to Fallon. He said he was impressed with the base--it's cleanliness, people and it's mission awareness. He also said that the base is unique in a lot of ways. Pilots, for the most part, can fly over vast stretches of land on the ranges, perform their training mission and not have to worry about civilian property on the ground. "You don't see that kind of training at most bases," he said.

England also touched on the water treatment plant that is currently under construction in town. The Navy contributed \$6.15 million, over one third of the over-all cost, for the project.

He applauded, too, the versatility of base personnel. Normally, only five airwings come through NASF a year. However, that number will be nine by the end of the year.

"It's a record year," he said. "There is a war going on, and it's going to go on for some time. This base is so important for us to finally be able to defeat terror."



Secretary of the Navy, Gordon England, speaks to NASF CO, Capt. Brad T. Goetsch during his visit to the base last week (Photo by JO2 Eric D. Ritter)

New Fire Chief has fire in his blood

By JO3 Denise Morris

No, he's not a race car driver or a jalapeno grower. Even though new Fire Chief Stuart "Stu" Cook's whole family has been fire fighters either as volunteers or federal fire fighters and can trace that lineage back to his great, great grandfather, he didn't know he was going to have a career in firefighting himself.

Cook fought his first fire at the age of 10 with his father beside him. "I was at (my father's) firehouse when a call for a structure fire came in. He put me in his vehicle and off we went."

He said he was scared to death of the thought of going into a fire, but his father assured him that everything would be okay. "He put a helmet and coat on me; walked me through and I put out the fire."

The Black Lions roar into Fallon



Picture from left to right: Lt.jg Ben Heinemeier, Lt. Kris Gasko and Lt. Ashley Spalding with squadron VF-213 with CVW-8 take time out during their busy schedule to show how the squadron benefit from training in Fallon. See detailed story of the squadron on page 7).

He said it was funny that all the exposure to firefighting while growing up didn't actually influence him to be a fire fighter as an adult. He didn't see firefighting as a career but slowly delved in the scene as a volunteer firefighter in New Jersey where he was promoted to assistant fire chief.

His total of 10 years in the Navy started when he received a draft note in the mail. He remembers seeing disturbing images on the channel 7 news of Marines in rice paddies and Army men getting shot. "So, I joined the Navy and probably sent myself to Vietnam faster then if

I had gotten drafted."

He recalled that his buddies, who were also drafted, were sent to Germany where they seemed to have a great time, "I went to bootcamp, went to engineman 'A' school and went right to Vietnam."

Cook didn't let his time on the rivers of Vietnam go to waste. He bought his first 35mm camera where his new hobby of photography was born. He took the opportunity to stretch his artistic ability and took several photographs of the land while working on a riverboat.

After serving on the *USS Lemoore* out of Little Creek, Cook finished his tour in 1973. At that time in his life, he didn't have a desire to make the Navy a career. After a break from the military for a few years, he re-enlisted in the Naval Reserves as a weekend warrior for a year.

His original idea when re-enlisting to active duty afterward as a second class petty officer was to make first class and become a damage control officer. He decided then he wanted to make the Navy a career.

He worked at the Naval Academy in Annapolis for a year as an instructor. While he was in Annapolis, he switched from engineman



His father wore the fireman's hat at the age of 17 which Stuart "Stu" Cook proudly displays in his workplace. Firefighting has been in his family for generations (Photo by JO3 Denise Morris).

See, Fire Chief page 5

Captain's Call



Question: With only limited time to get lunch, can something be done to make sure military members don't get caught behind large lines at the base galley?

Answer: Yes. I realize that the base galley is used by everyone on base—from visiting sailors to base personnel, both civilian and military, as well as base contractors and other visitors. With the number of people on board during an airwing, at times, the line at the galley prevents Sailors on a short lunch break from food service in a timely manner to eat lunch and return to their workcenters. Active-duty military have always had front-of-the-line privileges at the galley, but I realize this option is rarely exercised, especially by our junior personnel. While the head-of-the-line privilege will remain for all meal hours, I am instituting a modification to the lunch hours. Starting on November 1st, the galley will have a military-only period from 11am-11:30am on Mondays thru Fridays. This time-period will only be offered to active duty military in uniform. After 11:30am, all personnel may dine at the galley. I will monitor this policy to ensure that this measure achieves the desired outcome, and will modify it in the future if the change is not providing the means for our junior folks to receive a timely, nutritious lunch at the galley.

To forward a question to the CO, email to eric.ritter@navy.mil

Chaplain's Corner

By Fr Tom Friedl

November is a somewhat melancholy month. Everything seems to go into slow motion.

November is nature's way of telling us that we need to take time to slow down, just a little bit, to pause and remember, to think back on the year and how life has unfolded. In the Roman Catholic church the November begins with two special days. November 1st is *All Saints* (the origin of Halloween), a day to celebrate the common Christian men and women never canonized by the Pope. November 2nd is *All Souls Day* (in Mexico this is called *Dia de Los Muertos* – Day of the Dead). On *All Souls* we remember our deceased family members and friends, not with macabre sentimentality but with affection for how they touched and influenced our lives. In the civil calendar we celebrate the federal holiday of Veterans

Day, the day to honor those who have served their nation in the Armed Forces, ordinary men and women who contributed to a greater good. (Historical note: Veterans Day evolved from Armistice Day which commemorated the end of WWI on November 11, 1918.)

Our American culture tends to focus on glamorous, "bigger-than-life" heroes – three and four star admirals/generals who led victorious military campaigns, sports players with gobs of money and a life style to match, individuals considered to be the "shakers and movers" because their wealth buys them political power and prestige. Quiet November challenges us to focus on the "common folk" – the contribution each of us makes. Each and every one of us, created in the image and likeness of the Creator, matters. What we do and how we do it is im-

portant. We need to remember that the world is shaped by common, ordinary folks going about their lives as best they can, hoping to pass on to their children a world made better through their efforts. And that's all that God requires: that we make every effort to give it our best and that we demonstrate care and concern for our fellow human beings and use God's gifts carefully.

So the next time you're feeling sorry for yourself because you don't think your life has any purpose and you're not "one of the important people," play for yourself Aaron Copland's "*Fanfare for the Common Man*" and stand proud. You do make a difference. Your contribution is not insignificant.

Special note: peace and blessings to the Muslim community as it observes the holy month of Ramadan Nov. 6.

Scholarships for Military Children program opens for business

By Bonnie Powell, bonnie.powell@deca.mil

FORT LEE, Va. – The 2003 Scholarships for Military Children program opens for business Nov. 1 and the burning question is "how has being the child of a military service member influenced your educational goals?" That's the essay topic for 2003 and if the two previous years are any indication, it's a question applicants should consider carefully when applying for the \$1,500 scholarships.

The Scholarships for Military Children program is administered by the nonprofit Fisher House Foundation, best known for building family comfort homes near military medical facilities.

The Scholarships for Military Children program has awarded 920 scholarships and

nearly \$1.5 million in its first two years. All funds for scholarships are donated by the various manufacturers, brokers and suppliers that provide products for sale in military commissaries, which are recognized as a valuable quality of life benefit and an integral part of the military community.

Applications for the 2003 program can be downloaded from <http://www.commissaries.com> or <http://www.fisherhouse.org> starting Nov. 1. They can also be picked up at any commissary.

The deadline for returning applications by hand or mail to a commissary is Feb. 21, 2003.

The scholarship program is open to dependent unmarried children (under the age of 23) of active duty personnel, Reserve, Guard and retired military. Eligi-

bility will be determined using the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System (DEERS) database.

Applicants should ensure that they, as well as their sponsor, are currently enrolled in the DEERS database and that they have a current ID card. All applicants must be citizens of the United States.

The applicant must be planning to attend, or already attending, an accredited college or university full-time in the fall term of 2003. Students attending a community or junior college must be enrolled in a program of studies designed to transfer directly into a four-year program. See instruction sheets for additional criteria.

The Defense Commissary Agency operates nearly 280 commissaries worldwide, providing

groceries to military personnel, retirees and their families. Authorized commissary patrons purchase items at cost plus a 5-percent surcharge, which covers costs of building new commissaries and modernizing existing ones. Shoppers save an average of more than 30 percent on their purchases compared to commercial prices – savings worth more than \$2,400 annually for a family of four.

A core military family support element, and a valued part of military pay and benefits, commissaries contribute to family readiness, enhance the quality of life for America's military and their families, and help recruit and retain the best and brightest men and women to serve their country.

Educational Opportunities

Servicemembers who are interested in pursuing their bachelor's or master's degree in 2003 can use their Top-Up and GI Bill benefits at many well-known educational institutions. Since military students are in demand, many universities accept VA benefits and have created flexible programs to fit the needs of military students. Servicemembers may already have earned credit toward their degree through military service.

To find military-friendly schools and request free information on educational opportunities, go to <http://www.military.com>

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ing Manager at 562 N. Maine St., Fallon, NV 89407 or by telephone at (775) 423-6041.

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Submissions in the form of news and feature stories, photographs and letters to the editor are encouraged; these must include author's name, rating, rank and unit for military, and position and department for civilian personnel.

All submissions, with the exception of letters to the editor, must include duty phone number for verification of information. Signed letters to the editor will be considered for publication unless the writer requests that the contents not be published. Names will be withheld upon request. News and feature copy may be edited for adherence to appropriate news style and are subject to editing due to space limitations. Submit articles by e-mail or in text format on 3.5" disks and hard copy. Deadline is noon, nine days prior to publication.

Classified Ads: Classified advertising of personal items and services for

sale by members of the command may be accepted free of charge provided such items and services are not business operations, but represent an incidental exchange between active duty and retired military personnel and their families and from civilian employees at NAS Fallon. Free classified ads are limited to 24 words or less and must be submitted directly to the publisher on a form available in the Public Affairs Office.

Deadline for free classified ads is the same as the deadline for submission of article and photos. These ads are accepted only by mail or delivery by the above date to the office of the publisher, no phone-in ads will be accepted. Free classified ads may be emailed to eric.ritter@navy.mil

Capt. Brad T. Goetsch, Commanding Officer
Cmdr. Ed Rybold, Executive Officer
Zip Upham, Public Affairs Officer
JO2 Eric D. Ritter, Editor/layout&design/Photographer/Writer
JO3 Denise Morris, Staff Writer/Photographer

BZs on base



The frockees are (not in order of picture):

Alexander, Tucker	AO3	Weapons Department	Perez, Richard	LI3	Print Shop
Barr, Paul	AO3	Weapons Department	Walker, Jeffrey	AO2	Weapons Department
Bernardin, Kenneth	AO1	Weapons Department	Weidner, Hans	AO2	Weapons Department
Bidwell, Michael	AC2	Operations Department	Wiley, Wade	AO3	Weapons Department
Clancy, Hollie	RP3	Chapel	Wingo, Leslie	AO3	Weapons Department
Gilmore, Adam	AO3	Weapons Department	Brooks, Douglas	MA1	Security Department
Johnson, Kurt	AK1	Supply Department	Crandall, Michael	MA3	Security Department
Kuykendall, Joseph	AK1	Supply Department	Creel, Jacob	MA3	Security Department
Mays, Landon	AO3	Weapons Department	Higginson, Daniel	MA3	Security Department
Mcavoy, Kelly	AO3	Weapons Department	Kline, Shawn	MA1	Security Department
Mclaughlin, Drew	AC2	Operations Department	Lukusus, John	MA2	Security Department
Murray, Michael	YN1	Admin Department	Miller, Michael	MA1	Security Department
Norman, James	YN3	Admin Department	Mitchell, Eric	MA2	Security Department
Paisley, Paul	AC3	Operations Department	Pesicka, Michael	MA3	Security Department
			Wakefield, Tabettha	MA2	Security Department

(Photo by JO3 Denise Morris)

CSFWPD congratulates its own...



CSFWPD would like to congratulate AD2 David E. Elkington on his re-enlistment for another six years.

Weather Office presents NAM



Weather Office CO, Cmdr Joseph Yetter, presents AG3 Daniel Baerwaldt with a Navy Achievement Medal



CSFWPD would also like to congratulate AT2 Lance Rupprecht who re-enlistened for another six years (photos by YNSN Jorge Ramirex).

Chapel Call

Protestant

Sunday: 11a.m. Worship Service
Communion Sunday is the first Sunday of each month.

Catholic

Sunday: 9:30a.m. Mass
For other Catholic services available in town, please call St. Patrick's at 423-2846

Civilians of the Quarter



Civilians of the Quarter (Pictured left to right): Billy Fuller Dan Prockish Daniel Clough and Jack Cole (Photo by JO3 Denise Morris).

"The Tonight Show" Looking for Talented Sailors

By Lt. Christy Hagen, NAVINFO West

LOS ANGELES — Maybe you spin a basketball like one of the Harlem Globetrotters. Maybe you are a one-Sailor, five-piece band. Maybe you can turn an everyday object into a musical instrument.

If so, then maybe you can represent the Navy and perform on national television.

NBC's "The Tonight Show" will tape a program dedicated to the military in Los Angeles Nov. 27, with one of the segments featuring a military talent show.

The program, which will air Nov. 28, will showcase a one-to-two minute performance by an individual or small group from each of the service branches.

Examples of some of the acts include an airman who can play two trumpets simultaneously and a group of Soldiers performing an act similar to "Stomp" but with steel-toed boots. The show's pro-

ducers are not interested in a serious musical performance, instead focusing on unique talents and skills that are in good taste.

"The Tonight Show" will bear all costs associated with the performance, including airfare, lodging and ground transportation.

Anyone interested in being on the show can send a videotape of their performance to:

Navy Office of Information, West
Attn: Lt. Christy Hagen
10880 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 1220
Los Angeles, CA 90024

Videotapes must be received by Nov. 12 to be eligible. The tapes will then be forwarded to "The Tonight Show" for selection. Include your name, telephone number, e-mail and command address (if the address is an APO/FPO, please indicate command location) for all individuals performing.

"The Tonight Show" producers will contact those selected.

For more news from around the fleet, go to the Navy NewsStand Web page at www.news.navy.mil.

News and Notes

Pony Express Outfitters will be sponsoring a fishing derby at Walker Lake on Saturday, 23 November, 2002, starting at 0900. Derby ends at 1500, with final weigh-in at the boat dock at Sportsman's Beach at 1530.

- DETAILS:
- Fish from boat or shore.
 - (Pony Express boat and pole rentals 1/2 off for the day)
 - \$15.00 per person entry fee.
 - Derby registrations taken at building 393 until 1600, Wednesday, 20 November.
 - Provide your own food, beverages, and tackle.
 - Pony Express Outfitters will provide transportation if needed.
 - Sign up for ride at registration.
 - Must have current Nevada fishing license. Available at Pony express Outfitters if needed.

- PRIZES:
- BIGGEST FISH
 - 1st place - Free ski boat for the week-end.
 - 2nd place -Ski package for two at Squaw Valley. Includes lift tickets, ski's, poles, and boots.
 - 3rd place - Free week-end rental of 21' Aerolite trailer.

- HEAVIEST CREEL
- Free week-end rental of 16' Fisher fishing boat.

Upcoming events:

Turkey Trot 10K...1 Nov....X2949
All Hands Lunch at the Silver State...5 Nov at 1100...X2625
Turkey Bowl Tournament...19-21 Nov 4man teams....X2949
Apple Hill Charter...10 Nov....ITT X2865
Chili Cook Off...16 Nov...ITT X2865
Oklahoma...17 Nov...ITT X2865
Western Nevada Musical Theater Company
Fising Derby...23 Nov. must sign up by 20 November X259
Jst Rec It Shopping Trip to

Reno...16 Nov.
Jst Rec It & ITT 30 Nov. Take you to Sacramento to Vacaville for some early Christmas shopping at the factory outlet stores X2836 or X2865
Jst Rec It's Mystery Dinner Night
12 Nov.
Call X2836 for details!

Christmas Tree Lighting will be a combined event with the city of Fallon...6 Dec....details forth coming!



WHAT: The 2002/2003 Captains Basketball Season Is Getting Ready To Start

WHO: 100% MILITARY ROSTERS, YOU MUST PLAY WITH YOUR COMMAND UNLESS A WAIVER IS PROVIDED

THE FOLLOWING ROSTER INFORMATION MUST BE PROVIDED:
FULL FIRST AND LAST NAME
RANK/RATE
PHONE #
E-MAIL (OPTIONAL)
COACH, ASST. COACH AND POC'S INDICATED WITH FULL CONTACT INFORMATION ****NO EXCEPTIONS****

WHEN: ROSTERS MUST BE TURNED INTO THE INTRAMURAL SPORTS COORDINATOR BY COB NOVEMBER 29th ****NO EXCEPTIONS****

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL MARCIA AT 424-3761 OR TIM AT 424-2547



Desert Classifieds

Pets:

--If you're looking for a new or lost pet, please check with the Churchill Animal Protection Society (CAPS). They have a number of animals available for adoption or sponsorship. Call 423-7500 for more information.

Autos:

--2001 GMC Jimmy 4x4 SUV for sale. 26,000 miles, every option but leather. still under warranty. asking \$18,500 firm, well under blue book. Ask for Joel 428-6898
For sale: '86 Mercury Cougar; automatic; runs well but needs some work; \$650 obo; call Shaun at 428-6645

--'93 Ford Explorer 4x4 Sport 2D. Forest green w/ tan leather. AC, power everything, cruise, alarm. Excellent condition at NASF Lemon Lot, \$4,250 --email: wannabebob@yahoo.com or call bill at 426-3162

--Motorcycles: 1998 RM 125 Suzuki, many-many extra parts, excellent running machine, must go... asking \$2,850.00 or best offer (O.B.O.); 2001 RM 125 Suzuki, brand new with low hours, must go, asking \$3,750.00 or best offer (O.B.O.) Truck: 1997 Dodge Ram 1500, extended cab, 4x4, 5.9L V-8, automatic transmission, power everything, 3.5 inch lift with off-road tires, sprayed in bed liner, asking \$16,500.00 or best offer (O.B.O.) Contact Dustin Wiggins anytime. Work (775) 426-2319 or Home (775) 428-1122.
--1998 Jeep Grand Cherokee 5.9 Ltd

Constellation Battle Group set to deploy in support of OEF

SAN DIEGO — More than 8,000 Pacific Fleet Sailors will commence a six-month deployment in support of Operation Enduring Freedom when Naval forces of the USS Constellation (CV 64) Carrier Battle Group depart San Diego Nov. 2.

The Constellation Battle Group, based in San Diego, will deploy with the following San Diego-based ships: guided-missile cruisers USS Bunker Hill (CG 52) and USS Valley Forge (CG 50); guided-missile destroyers USS Higgins (DDG 76) and USS Milius (DDG 69), and guided-missile frigate USS Thach (FFG 43). Other units include the fast attack submarine USS Columbia (SSN 771), based in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, and the fast combat support ship USS Rainier (AOE 7), based in Bremerton, Wash.

The crew of the San Diego-based destroyer USS Kinkaid (DD 965) will participate in the Navy's innovative Sea Swap program - they join the Constellation Battle Group, but their ship won't. In coming months, Kinkaid's crew will decommission their ship in San Diego and then fly overseas to swap out with the crew aboard the destroyer USS Fletcher (DD 992), currently deployed with the Abraham Lincoln Battle Group in the Arabian Gulf. Fletcher's crew will fly home, while their ship - now manned with Kinkaid's crew old crew - will join up with the recently arrived Constellation Battle group.

Sea Swap allows crews to spend more of their six-month deployment on station and less time in transit.

Another ship in the Constellation Battle Group, Milius, will be the first guided-missile destroyer to deploy overseas under the Optimal Manning program.

Milius will deploy with a crew of 233 enlisted Sailors, a 19 percent reduction in the original manning for that ship. The reduction in the ship's manning has been made possible by automating several systems and installing do-it-yourself services such as laundry.

The battle group's preparations for deployment included a Joint Task Force Exercise (JTFEX) off the coast of Southern California Oct. 17-29.

The exercise tested the force's ability to respond to operational scenarios they might encounter during the deployment, which will be the 21st deployment for the 41-year old Constellation.

Constellation, a Kitty Hawk-class aircraft carrier, displaces nearly 88,000 tons and is home to more than 5,500 Sailors and other embarked personnel. It carries approximately 75 combat support and support aircraft. From its 4.5 acre flight deck, it can quickly launch and recover the world's most modern military aircraft that operate with other elements of the U.S. Armed Forces and allied nations.

For more 3rd Fleet news, visit the command's custom Navy NewsStand page at www.news.navy.mil/local/c3f. For more USS Constellation news, visit the ship's custom Navy NewsStand page at www.news.navy.mil/local/cv64.

4x4, AT, CD, Leather, Silver Metallic, A/C, PW,PD/L, Onboard Computer, Nice Condition, 93k miles, \$14,500 OBO. Call Steve (775) 745-0837.--1989 Olds Cutlass Sierra, V6, 4DR, AT, Blue, Cassette, Runs Well, 190k miles, \$1000 OBO, call Steve (775) 745-0837.

--1995 Honda civic LX 4 door, Metalic Red, high mileage, Sunroof, power everything, Kenwood head unit, 1 8 inch LCD screen, four 4-inch LCD screens, Playstation 2, 17-inch Chrome rims, two 12-inch kicker woofers, hydraulic trunk, custom spoiler, clear brake lights. 10,000.00 Best Offer. Call Ruben at 775 428-1501.

--1989 Olds Cutlass Sierra V6, 4DR, AT, Blue, Cassette, Runs Well, 190k miles, \$1,000 OBO. Call Steve (775) 745-0837. (775) 745-0837.

--1986 Mercury Cougar. Call 428-6645
Lowrider Bicycle Parts: 2 frames 1 gold, 1 red, tires, fenders handlebars, All for \$200 or best offer. Call Ruben at 775 428-1501.

Roper brand Dryer. Almost new works perfectly. \$200. Call Ruben at 775 428-1501.

--Kenwood stereo system with cabinet, speakers, 2 sided tape deck, tuner, cd player (holds 5 CDs) and amplifier all are also in excellent condition. Now asking \$500. Please call 423-2624.

--1995 G.E., 21.7 cu. ft., side-by-side, frost-free refrigerator/freezer with ice maker. Asking \$650/OBO. Phone AECS Jim Williamson at 426-3485, during normal working hours or 423-8619, after normal working hours.

--1994 CR250L Honda. Great bike! Includes brand new helmet, gloves & gas can. Must go. Asking \$1600 OBO. and 8'x8'x12' chain fence dog kennel. \$100 OBO, hp lawn mower. \$100 OBO. Contact Sean Lawson anytime. work (775) 426-3441. home (775) 423-9255.

--Deluxe Stoller with car seat \$45 obo and "Hello Kitty" high chair, \$5; 2 bar stools, \$15 or 1 each, \$8 Call Mardie at 423-2246.

Share Rental—2 bedroom apt. in Fallon. \$275/ month. Includes utilities. 423-7918. Misc.:

I am looking for a roommate to share a 2 bedroom, fully furnished apartment located in a quiet part of town. The rent is \$275 a month and includes all utilities (elec., gas, water, garbage) Cable TV and telephone are extra. It takes approximately 10-15 minutes to get to Fallon NAS 423-7918

Fire Chief, from page 1

to hull technician. In Annapolis, he met his then wife who was about to go to NAS Adak, Alaska where there was only one billet open for a hull technician. He and his wife got married and were stationed together in Adak where his life changed.

He went to school and was promoted to military fire chief. "While serving as a military firefighter at NAS Adak, Alaska, I decided that firefighting is the most rewarding and honored profession in the world." Because of Cook's experience in volunteer fire fighting, he was promoted to leading petty officer. He was then sent to more schools and promoted to military fire chief.

He said being a volunteer fire fighter is different from being a fire fighter 24 hours a day and seven days a week. He said that once he saw how different it was to actually stay in a fire station, everything changed. "Once I started living in the fire station, it was just the life that I wanted and I knew it." Cook continued, "As a volunteer you have another job. When the bell goes off, you run to the fire station and as soon as the fire is out you go home."

He said when he was living in the firehouse, he noticed the fire fighters were their own community. "Firefighters the world over are a family. They are the craziest, bravest and most generous bunch I've ever worked with."

While stationed in Adak three men impressed him very much and changed his outlook on his future. One of those was his assistant Fire Chief Charlie Crafts. He said Crafts influenced him because of his professional attitude and liked the way he ran things.

Crafts was a career firefighter from Fallon and after his tour in Adak he returned to NAS Fallon fire department where he retired. "I've already had the pleasure of visiting with him since my arrival (here). It's a small world."

He spent three years in Adak and went to the *USS Cleveland* out of San Diego where he was about to be promoted to hull technician chief petty officer. Cook had other plans. "I got out of the Navy on a Friday, and started as a fire fighter on a Sunday," he said.

His artistic reach with his 35mm camera did not stop on those rivers in Vietnam. His photography has been featured in National Geographic, People Magazine (1989 San Francisco earthquake) and many firefighting publications have used his articles as well as photographs and one of his photographs appeared on a credit card for firefighter's.

Then he was stationed in Japan where he spent half of his federal fire service career with two assignments from 1990 and 1997 and from 1999 to 2002. He picked up his camera

again and photographed what he saw of the county. He also kept notebooks and many journals over the years. .

Cook said he always had an attraction to Japan. He cannot describe in words what intrigues him about the country, but said it could be the history, customs and traditions that draw him to it. He said it could be that many people tell him he was Japanese another life.

His fascination with the country did not stop with photography. Cook has started working on a book that concentrates on the firefighting community in Japan. "I want this book to serve as a testament to the Japanese firefighting I know and respect."

He said he would like to show the similarities (such as using bucket brigades) and the differences (such as using high-tech equipment including robots) between the way fire fighters operate here in America and in Japan.

He was also interested in the fact that when Japan was closed for a few years, the way they operated their fire departments was similar even though there was no outside influence.

Since he began his career as a firefighter, the community had a lot of additional requirements put onto their occupation. In the past, they only had to fight fires and perform various basic rescues. Over the years, fire fighting has added emergency medical services, hazmat, confine space rescue, swift water rescue and every type of physical entrapment, such as auto extraction and building collapse.

Over the last year with the increase in terrorist attacks and threats, their requirements have once again changed. "We have to handle each response with caution. It's no longer running in as fast as we can to put out the fire," Cook said. "We have to be concerned with chemical, biological weapons, bombs and many other forms of terrorism."

He remembers that his father told him at a young age, "Do what's right for the fire department." Cook added, "That has always been number one with me." He continued, "I've worked long hours to improve safety on the job everywhere I've worked. I hold my firefighters and supervisors accountable and will continue to improve this fire department."

Cook said what his future plans are for the fire department here. "I will continue to upgrade the training for our personnel and equipment. I want to improve the safety for both our firefighters and the people we serve both on and off base."

Cook didn't think he was going to added to the list of family members in the firefighter's community, but he continues the legacy working here. "I feel it is a privilege to serve as the new fire chief here at Fallon. We are a family and we watch each other's backs. I have always enjoyed coming to work and that's how I want the NAS Fallon Fire fighters to be."

NAS Fallon to observe American Indian Month

Compiled by PRC(AW) Phillip Mable, Equal Opportunity Advisor

The nation sets aside, annually, November to formally recognize the contributions, accomplishments and personal sacrifices that American Indians and Alaska Natives have made, and continue to make, in the defense of the United States through their honored military and civil services. The theme for this year's national celebration is: **"Honoring Life, Honoring Elders, Honoring Heritage."**

American Indians have participated with distinction in United States military actions for more than 200 years. American military leaders recognized their courage, determination and fighting spirit as early as the 18th century. From the Choctaw and Navajo Code Talkers of World War's I and II, to the gallant efforts and ultimate self-sacrifices of U.S. Army soldiers, Private First Class Charles George, Army Capt. Raymond Harvey and Cpl Mitchell Redcloud Jr. whose, actions during the Korean War earned them the Medal of Honor. Other

distinguished past and present American-Indians and Alaskan Natives include four Lakota Nuns from Fort Berthold, South Dakota, who worked as nurses for the War Department during the Spanish American War; the 800 women who served in the military during World War II; Cmdr John B. Herrington, U.S. Navy, the first American Indian astronaut selected by NASA in 1996 and Sacagawea, the American Indian woman who accompanied Lewis and Clark on their exploration of the West and is proudly featured on the first U.S. dollar coin of the millennium.

Recognition of native people dates back to the early 1900s when the Boy Scouts of America set aside a day for the "First Americans." In 1915, The American-Indian Association declared the second Saturday of each May as an American-Indian Day. After that, several states declared American-Indian Days until 1976, when Congress passed a joint resolution authorizing the President to proclaim the week of October 10-16 as Native -

American Awareness Week. It wasn't until 1990 that an entire month was established to recognize Native-American Heritage. President George H. Bush proclaimed 1992 as the "Year of the American Indian," based on congressional legislation. Since then, each President has issued a proclamation each year designating November as National American Indian and Alaskan Native Heritage Month.

Today, there are over 500 federally recognized tribes in the United States and nearly 13,000 active duty American Indian and Alaska natives in our armed forces. Historically, they have the highest record of service per capita when compared to other ethnic groups. Take this opportunity to learn about other cultures through participating in command programs and by viewing educational displays located in the base library and galley. For further information contact the department Command Training and Assessment Team members or Equal Opportunity Office at Ext. 426-2091.



November is Military Family Month

The Fleet and Family Support Center applauds all military families for their patience, compassion, strength and endurance. Your tasks are not easily defined. Each day that your active duty member leaves for work, you offer support to his or her assignment. Your contributions are large, because you are the support network that maintains home and family in preparation for your sailors' return.

While all family members make sacrifices in support of military service, it is important to recognize the contributions families and spouses make to career choices and assignment options. It is the shared career decisions between families and service members that provide active duty personnel with confidence in their assignments. Our sense of purpose always comes from our immediate families. We commend all military families for providing that sense of purpose to our sailors.

The Fleet and Family Support Center is pleased to acknowledge the important work that Military Families do. We thank these families for the love and support that allows our Navy personnel the strength to serve. Let us all take this month to honor the tremendous contributions Military Families make to the Navy, and to our nation.

For information regarding Military Family Certificates, please call Jerri Jackson at the Fleet & Family Support Center – 426.3333.

Why Recycle?

By NAS Fallon, Recycling Coordinator, Cecil Cook

Call it garbage, solid waste, refuse, or trash! It's the waste we produce At home and in the office. All of these recyclables add up to a massive pile. In fact, each year our nation generates enough garbage to fill a convoy of trucks reaching about half way to the moon. Paper alone represents from 39 to 45 percent of what goes to our landfill. The average family generates over 2200 pounds of trash every year. The average office worker generates 120-150 pounds of paper per year.

The NAS Fallon Recycling Department had been providing a full range of recycling services since 1991. These services include a Curbside Recycling Program, Office Recycling Program, Dumpsters for cardboard and scrap steel at all major buildings, and a Local Community Program for the city of Fallon. The materials collected in these

programs are paper, steel, plastic, cardboard, glass, and aluminum.

Because there's not a simple remedy for our trash problem, we need to consider a combination of solutions. Recycling is one important remedy because it reduces the amount of waste deposited in the landfill. By recycling at home and at the office we can save money on our garbage disposal, earn money from the sale of recyclables, and help alleviate our mounting garbage problem. The need for restraint was really evidenced in 1995 when our disposal costs jumped from \$1.05 to \$14.72 per cubic yard. Currently, landfill costs are between \$25 and \$35 a ton.

WHAT IS RECYCLING? "Recycling" means separating, collecting, processing, marketing, and ultimately using a material that was thrown away. This morning's newspaper can be recycled for another morning's news or other paper products. Here are some of the energy and environmental savings facts

about office paper:

1. Each ton of recycled paper means that:
 - a. 17 trees are saved from being cut down.
 - b. 4100 kWh energy are saved.
 - c. 380 gallons of oil are saved.
 - d. 7000 gallons of water are saved.
 - e. 3 cubic yards of landfill space is saved.

WHAT IS OUR GOAL? With everybody's help, recycling offers great promise for improved management of our solid waste problem. Currently, at NAS Fallon, we recycle approximately 25 percent of our waste stream. Our goal for fiscal year 2005 is to reach 40 percent. Reaching our goal will take a dedicated effort on the part of all personnel assigned to NAS Fallon. The staff of the Recycling Department would like to thank all NAS Fallon personnel who support the program. Your support helps makes our job much easier and the world a better place to live.

Flu Shots

Administration of Influenza vaccine is mandatory for all Active Duty personnel, unless members have a documented allergy to the vaccine or are immunocompromised.

Immunizations and Preventive Health Assessment will be administered to all Naval Air Station personnel in the multi-purpose room from November 4 to November 22 from 1 to 4 pm.

Influenza vaccine will be available to all dependants and retirees enrolled in Tri-care Prime following the active duty immunization period. Dependents and retirees point of contact for the vaccine is Wellness Clinic.

TSP Begins Second Year

WASHINGTON — With the start of the second year of the Thrift Savings Plan (TSP), Sailors have the opportunity to join nearly 88,000 of their active-duty and Reserve shipmates who are currently taking advantage of this tax-deferred investment opportunity.

From Oct. 15 through Dec. 31, Sailors can sign up for TSP or increase their contributions up to the new limit of 8 percent.

"Here's a wonderful opportunity to increase your financial strength," said Chief of Naval Personnel Vice Adm. Gerry Hoewing. "With the upcoming 4.1-percent pay raise, Sailors can take a small part of that and save for their futures. Those now enrolled in TSP can up their contributions up to 8 percent. This is an excellent opportunity to increase your future financial power with the change in contributions."

Any active member of the uniformed services or Reservist in any pay status may participate in TSP. Contributions can range from as little as 1 percent to 8 percent of basic pay. Bonus and incentive pay may also be contributed up to the \$12,000 IRS tax limit allowed in 2003.

For those serving in a combat zone, the current ceiling for contributions is \$40,000. Contribution limits increase through 2007 when there will be no limit on the percentage of basic pay contributed, and the total dollar limit is inflation adjusted.

TSP investments may be directed to any of five different funds, which vary in risk and investment mixture.

The five funds are government securities investment (G fund), fixed income investment (F fund), common stock index investment (C fund), small capitalization stock index investment (S fund) and international stock index investment (I fund). Contributions are initially directed to the G fund, but service members can redirect their investment once the account is active.

Enrolling in TSP is easy whether done online or in person. Sailors can access the Employee/Member Self Service (E/MSS) Web site at www.dfas.mil/emss and complete the enrollment form (TSP-U-1). A receipt or confirmation for online enrollment is not available because the requests will not be processed until the end of December. However, deductions begin with all pay earned starting in January.

The E/MSS site enables service members to enroll during the open season or within 60 days of the date of their enlistment.

Those unable to enroll online or who prefer to do so in person may receive the TSP-U-1 form from their local personnel support detachment (PSD) or may download the form from www.bupers.navy.mil and submit the completed form to the PSD or ship's office for processing.

For more information on TSP click on www.tsp.gov.

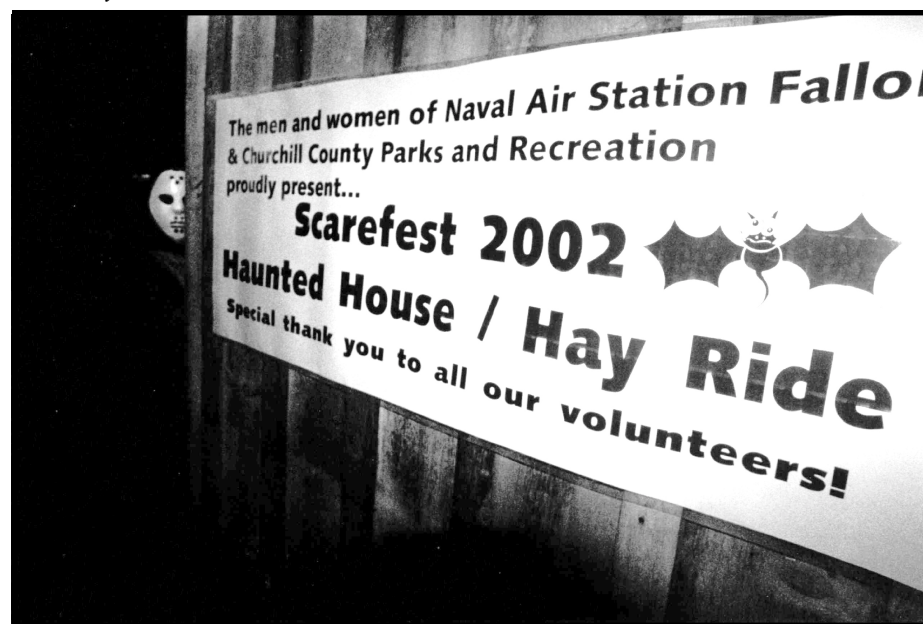
Desert Moon Theater

Friday, Nov 1	6:30pm	Swimfan (PG13)
	9pm	Banger Sisters(R)
Saturday, Nov 2	6:30pm	City by the Sea (R)
	9pm	Four Feathers (PG13)
Sunday, Nov 3	2pm	Ballistic: Ecks VS Sever (R)
	5pm	Banger Sisters (R)
	7:30pm	Four Feathers (PG13)
Monday, Nov 4	6:30pm	Banger Sisters (R)
Tuesday, Nov 5	6:30pm	Four Feathers (PG13)
Wednesday, Nov 6	6:30pm	City by the Sea (R)
Thursday, Nov 7	6:30pm	Swimfan (PG13)
Friday, Nov 8	6:30pm	Stealing Harvard (PG13)
	9pm	The Tuxedo (PG13)
Saturday, Nov 9	6:30pm	Banger Sisters (R)
	9pm	Trapped (R)
Sunday, Nov 10	2pm	Swimfan (PG13)
	5pm	Stealing Harvard (PG13)
	7:30pm	The Tuxedo (PG13)

Movie dates and times after November 1 TBA
Call the Theater for up-to-date times at 426-2552

Base and town join to have a hauntingly good time

Photos by JO2 Eric D. Ritter



Some base personnel joined resources with the Churchill County Parks and Recreation service this year to help bring in the 'spirit' of Halloween to the local area.

Volunteers spent days of their free time planning and constructing their ideas into a fright-filled labyrinth of rooms.

Some of the main players from base were from Weapons, Ops, NSAWC First Class Association, Petty Officer Association, MWR and the Chief Petty Officer's Association.



Both kids and adults all had a good time exploring the house



A 'severed' head is all smiles



Outside the haunted house as evening begins to fall



Laying in wait for new victims



Base personnel showing some their 'spirit'

VF-213: The Fighting Black Lions

By JO3 Denise Morris

The last time the Fighting Black Lions of VF-213 were in Fallon, they were attached to CVW-8 aboard *USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN 71)*. Now they are attached to CVW-11 were they deployed to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

The squadron set the record for an F-14 squadron dropping the most ordnance on a single cruise during Operation Enduring Freedom. They were also recently awarded Navy Unit Commendation for participation in Operation Enduring Freedom.

VF-213, now detached with CVW-8 with *USS Enterprise*, was one of the first to launch an air strike along with CVW-11 on Oct 7. F-14 pilots from VF-213 who have trained here before said they were able to use what they learned in Afghanistan.

NAS Fallon is the only facility in the Navy where an entire air wing can train together in the strike tactics proven to be successful in combat. Because of the outstanding training facility here, many Navy pilots who flew in Operations Desert Storm and Allied Force credit their success to the realistic training they received here.

"At Fallon, we perfect air-to-ground training mission locating difficult targets in a desert

environment." Lt. Martin Velazquez, F-14 R.I.O., "There is no other training facility like this available."

"The training we get here is unlike any other we get," said Lt. Kris Gasko of VF-213, "The difference between being here and on a boat is the fact that on the boat we just have to worry about ship operations. Here you have the ranges, the airspace and the terrain which shows a lot of the limitations of the aircraft and how much work needs to be done."

"The social side of it is good too because we're coming into a new air wing," Gasko said. He said that the camaraderie allows them a feeling of trust and a better sense of how the air wing is going to work together. Also, how they can be more effective at their job because they get to know the personnel in the other squadrons better and know how everyone is going to work together and what to expect from each.

Velazquez said the squadron will be different in the future. They will make two more cruises with the 14-D before transitioning to the Super Hornet.

Although the air station is small in size, it has proven its importance in the Navy's role in the war against terrorism. Its training facilities, four bombing ranges, and an electronic warfare range make the station a one-stop training facility unequalled in the Navy.

